

P-421 et al./CP-94-173;
P-539 et al./CP-92-1201
P-415,421/CP-93-666
P-565,430,421/CP-91-167
P-543,430/CP-94-67
P-405,421/CP-93-648
P-407,421/CP-93-846

ORDER CERTIFYING POLLING RESULTS

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Joel Jacobs
Tom Burton
Marshall Johnson
Dee Knaak
Don Storm

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from the Princeton Exchange to the
Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan Local
Calling Area

ISSUE DATE: November 7, 1995

DOCKET NO. P-421 et al./CP-94-173;

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from Kasson and Mantorville to Byron
and Rochester

DOCKET NO. P-539 et al./CP-92-1201

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from Richmond to the Local Calling
Area of Cold Spring/St. Cloud

DOCKET NO. P-415,421/CP-93-666

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service among the Starbuck, Glenwood, and
Villard Telephone Exchanges

DOCKET NO. P-565,430,421/CP-91-167

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from Lowry to Alexandria

DOCKET NO. P-543,430/CP-94-67

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from Henderson to LeSueur

DOCKET NO. P-405,421/CP-93-648

In the Matter of a Petition for Extended Area
Service from Nickerson to the Local Calling
Area of Carlton/Duluth

DOCKET NO. P-407,421/CP-93-846

ORDER CERTIFYING POLLING RESULTS

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

In accordance with Minn. Stat. § 237.161, customers in the Princeton, Kasson and Mantorville, Richmond, Starbuck, Villard, Lowry, Henderson, and Nickerson exchanges were balloted to determine if a majority of those responding to the poll favored extended area service (EAS) to certain exchanges. Polling took place between August 15 and October 2, 1995.

The results of the polling are as follows:

The communities of Kasson and Mantorville, Richmond, Starbuck, Villard (to Glenwood) and Henderson voted in favor of EAS:

Voting Exchange	Petitioned Exchange(s)	1 Party Res. Rate	1 Party Bus. Rate	% Voting	YES		NO	
					#	%	#	%
Kasson & Mantorville	Byron and Rochester	\$6.86	\$6.86	69.5%	1,482	72.3%	569	27.7%
Richmond	Cold Spring and St. Cloud	\$5.05	\$7.57	77.8%	1,069	81.0%	250	19.0%
Starbuck	Glenwood	\$1.50	\$2.16	69.9%	709	69.3%	314	30.7%
Villard	Glenwood	\$1.83	\$3.66	67.2%	244	63.2%	142	36.8%
Henderson	LeSueur	\$3.42	\$7.18	70.5%	273	62.5%	164	37.5%

The communities of Princeton, Villard (to Glenwood **and** Starbuck), Lowry and Nickerson voted against EAS:

Voting Exchange	Petitioned Exchange(s)	1 Party Res. Rate	1 Party Bus. Rate	% Voting	YES		NO	
					#	%	#	%
Princeton	Metropolitan Calling Area	\$25.34	\$63.34	70.3%	1,777	47.0%	2,002	53.0%
Villard	Glenwood and Starbuck	\$2.93	\$5.87	67.1%	122	31.7%	263	68.3%
Lowry	Alexandria	\$8.33	\$11.56	70.9%	192	34.3%	368	65.7%
Nickerson	Carlton and Duluth	\$7.90	\$15.80	66.2%	103	46.2%	120	53.8%

On October 17, 1995, the polling results came before the Commission for consideration.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Those exchanges in which a majority of responding customers voted for EAS have completed the third and final statutory criterion for a successful EAS petition. The Commission will order the implementation of EAS in those exchanges.

Any requests for recovery of nonrecurring costs incurred in the implementation of EAS must be submitted at least 120 days before the planned implementation date.

The Commission will deny the EAS petitions in those cases in which a majority of responding customers voted against EAS. Those dockets (or portions of dockets) will be closed.

ORDER

1. The Commission denies the following EAS petitions: Princeton to the Minneapolis/St. Paul metropolitan local calling area; Villard to Glenwood and Starbuck; Lowry to Alexandria; and Nickerson to the Carlton/Duluth local calling area. US WEST, United, Lowry and GTE shall file proposed customer notices, listing the results of the polling, for Commission Staff approval within 10 days of this Order. The companies shall serve the notices in the first possible billing cycle after their approval. After service of the notices, the companies shall file copies of the final notices with the Department of Public Service and the Commission. The Commission will close the Princeton, Lowry, and Nickerson dockets and the Villard to Glenwood and Starbuck portion of the Starbuck, Glenwood, and Villard docket.
2. The Commission approves the following EAS petitions: Kasson and Mantorville to Byron and Rochester; Richmond to Cold Spring/St. Cloud; Starbuck to Glenwood; Villard to Glenwood; and Henderson to LeSueur. EAS service between these routes shall begin within 12 months of the date of this Order.
3. Kasson and Mantorville Telephone Company, Melrose Telephone Company, Starbuck Telephone Company, United Telephone Company and Frontier Communications shall coordinate implementation of EAS in their respective exchanges and shall file implementation schedules within 60 days of this Order.
4. Any requests for recovery of nonrecurring costs must be made at least 120 days before the planned implementation date. The Department will have 30 days to comment on the proposed charges.
5. Kasson and Mantorville Telephone Company, Melrose Telephone Company, Starbuck Telephone Company, United Telephone Company and Frontier Communications shall submit the first of two proposed customer notices for approval by Commission staff within 10 days of the date of this Order. The notices shall list the results of the polling, the EAS additives and the proposed implementation dates. After approval, the companies shall serve the notices in the first possible billing cycle in their respective exchanges.
6. Kasson and Mantorville Telephone Company, Melrose Telephone Company, Starbuck Telephone Company, United Telephone Company and Frontier

Communications shall notify their customers of the start date of EAS by means of a second bill insert. This notification shall describe the service, instruct customers on dialing, list the additional rates to be paid and the date of implementation. This bill insert shall be included in the billing cycle that concludes at least one month, but not more than two months, before EAS is implemented. The aforementioned notices shall be submitted to Commission Staff for approval at least 90 days before the implementation date of the service.

7. At least 30 days before the implementation of EAS, all affected local telephone companies shall file tariff sheets reflecting prior Commission Orders that established the rates and terms for EAS in each of the exchanges affected by the installation of EAS.
8. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

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